

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for populating a list of GAL contacts on a device, comprising:
 - automatically selecting global address list (GAL) contacts for a user that are unique from the user's personal contacts;
 - preparing the GAL contacts; and
 - providing the GAL contacts to a device.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein automatically selecting the global GAL contacts, further comprises obtaining the GAL contacts from the user's emails.
3. The method of Claim 2, wherein obtaining the GAL contacts from the user's emails, further comprises obtaining a primary addressee from each of a predetermined number of sent emails from the user.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein automatically selecting the global GAL contacts, further comprises obtaining the GAL contacts from meeting requests.
5. The method of Claim 2, further comprising obtaining the GAL contacts from meeting requests.
6. The method of Claim 2, wherein providing the GAL contacts to the device, further comprises providing updates to the device in order to update a GAL contact store on the device.
7. The method of Claim 2, further comprising limiting the number of GAL contacts provided to the device.
8. The method of Claim 2, further comprising maintaining a user snapshot list outside of the device that is related to the GAL contacts for the user.

9. The method of Claim 2, further comprising displaying the GAL contacts along with the user's personal contacts.

10. A system for populating a list of GAL contacts on a device, comprising: a device including a communications connection, a data store, a display, and a processor that is configured to perform the following actions, including:

connecting to a network using the communications connection to perform a synchronization;

receiving an update list from the network containing information to update global address list (GAL) contacts that are unique from a user's personal contacts;

updating the GAL contacts;

storing the updated GAL contacts in the data store; and

displaying the GAL contacts on the display;

a server including a communications connection, a data store, and a processor that is configured to perform the following actions, including:

obtaining the global address list (GAL) contacts for the user;

preparing an update list based on the GAL contacts in the data store on the device and the obtained GAL contacts; and

providing the GAL contacts to a device over the network.

11. The system of Claim 10, wherein obtaining the global address list (GAL) contacts for the user, further comprises obtaining the GAL contacts from the user's emails.

12. The system of Claim 11, wherein obtaining the GAL contacts from the user's emails, further comprises obtaining a primary addressee from each of a predetermined number of sent emails from the user.

13. The system of Claim 12, further comprising obtaining the GAL contacts from meeting requests.

14. The system of Claim 11, wherein obtaining the GAL contacts from the user's emails further comprises accessing a mail server and retrieving a predetermined number of emails from the user's sent emails.

15. The system of Claim 12, further comprising displaying the GAL contacts along with the user's personal contacts on the display.

16. A computer-readable medium for populating a list of GAL contacts on a device, comprising:

beginning a synchronization session;
automatically selecting global address list (GAL) contacts for a user that are unique from the user's personal contacts from the user's emails; and
providing the GAL contacts to a device.

17. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein obtaining the GAL contacts from the user's emails, further comprises obtaining a primary addressee from each of a predetermined number of sent emails from the user.

18. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein automatically selecting the global GAL contacts, further comprises obtaining the GAL contacts from meeting requests.

19. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein providing the GAL contacts to the device, further comprises providing updates to the device in order to update a GAL contact store on the device.

20. The computer-readable medium of Claim 17, further comprising maintaining a user snapshot list outside of the device that is related to the GAL contacts for the user.